

REMARKS

Claims 1-32 are pending. Claims 1 and 5 have been amended for clarity and new claims 7-32 have been added to provide an additional measure of protection for the invention.

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested for the following reasons.

In the Office Action, claims 1-4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) for being anticipated by the Emmott publication. This rejection is respectfully traversed for the following reasons.

Claim 1 recites broadly the embodiments of the invention disclosed in the specification. In particular, this claim recites a microcomputer which downloads cooking information from the Internet and then performs the function of "automatically outputting a control signal to perform a cooking operation depending on the cooking information selected by the user from the downloaded information." (Automatic control signal generation is apparent from the specification, for example, at page 6, lines 14-20, which discloses that the oven is controlled to complete the cooking operation when a user selects a cooking start button.) The Emmott patent does not disclose a microcomputer which performs this function.

Emmott discloses a microwave oven equipped with web browser for performing searches on the Internet. The searches are performed to locate recipes and other food-related information based on key words input by a user. The recipes are then downloaded for viewing on a display integrated into a control panel of the oven. (See paragraphs [0027] and [0028]). However, the Emmott publication does not disclose a microcomputer which outputs a control signal to cook

food depending on a recipe selected by a user. Data handling portion 12 controls all microwave functions for cooking food (paragraph [0022]). This data handling portion, however, does not generate a control signal to cook food when a recipe is selected for downloading. Rather, the Emmott oven merely displays a recipe on a graphical user interface.

Thus, Emmott does not disclose a microcomputer which automatically outputs a control signal to perform a cooking operation depending on the cooking information selected by the user from the downloaded information as recited in claim 1.

Claim 1 also recites a signal converting unit which converts cooking information selected by a user and downloaded from the search engine into a signal recognizable by a microcomputer. Emmott also fails to disclose these features. Once a recipe is downloaded, it is displayed on a graphical user interface. However, Emmott does not disclose that the recipe is converted into a signal recognizable by a microcomputer, and more specifically one which controls the cooking operations of the oven.

Because the Emmott publication does not disclose all the features of claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that Emmott cannot anticipate claim 1. Applicant further submits that these differences are sufficient to render claim 1 and its dependent claims non-obvious and thus patentable over Emmott.

Claim 5 was rejected under U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious based on a combination formed between the Emmott publication and the Olsen patent. This rejection is respectfully traversed for the following reasons.

Claim 5 depends from claim 1. In order to render claim 5 obvious, the Olsen patent must therefore teach or suggest the features of claim 1 missing from the Emmott publication. The Olsen patent discloses performing parallel addressing of a random access memory. However, Olsen does not teach or suggest a microcomputer which outputs a control signal to cook food depending on the cooking information selected by the user, or a signal converting unit which converts downloaded cooking information selected by a user into a signal recognizable by such a microcomputer.

Absent these features, it is respectfully submitted that the Olsen patent cannot make up for the deficiencies of Emmott and that therefore claim 5 is allowable over an Emmott-Olsen combination at least by virtue of its dependency from claim 1.

Claim 5 separately recites "if a high signal generated by the signal converting unit is applied to the microcomputer, while the microcomputer recognizes a data transmission zone of the microcomputer if a low signal generated by the signal converting unit is applied to the microcomputer." (According to one non-limiting embodiment, the high and low signals may respectively correspond to a logical "1" and a logical "0.") The Emmott patent does not teach or suggest these features, and neither does Olsen. It is respectfully submitted that claim 5 is allowable over the cited combination for these additional reasons.

Claim 6 was rejected under U.S.C. §103(a) for being obvious based on Emmott. Applicant submits that claim 6 is allowable at least by virtue of its dependency from claim 1.

New claims 7-31 have been added to the application. Applicant submits that these claims are allowable for at least the following reasons.

Claim 7 recites that the "converted cooking information selected by the user controls the microcomputer to cook the food." (See, e.g., page 6, lines 18-20, for support). The Emmott publication does not teach or suggest these features, i.e., once a recipe is downloaded and displayed that recipe does not control data handling portion 12 to cook food. It is therefore respectfully submitted that claim 7 is allowable over the cited references, not only by virtue of its dependency from claim 1 but also based on the features separately recited therein.

Claim 8 recites a microwave oven comprising a microcomputer and a converter. The converter converts cooking information obtained from an Internet site into a form recognizable by the microcomputer, wherein the microcomputer controls downloading of the cooking information in response to a first user signal and generates a control signal to cook food based on the converted cooking information in response to a second user signal. These features are not taught or suggested by the cited references, whether taken alone or in combination.

Claim 9 recites that the converted cooking information configures at least one cooking parameter of the oven, and wherein the food is cooked in accordance with said at least one parameter in response to the second user signal. These features are not taught or suggested by the cited references, whether taken alone or in combination.

Claim 10 recites a display for displaying the cooking information. The first user signal selects the cooking information on the display (claim 11) and the second user signal is generated from activation of a cooking start button (claim 12). These features are not taught or suggested by the cited references, whether taken alone or in combination.

Claim 14 recites that the microcomputer receives the converted cooking information from the converter based on a data transmission available signal. These features are not taught or suggested by the cited references, whether taken alone or in combination.

Claim 15 recites that the data transmission available signal indicates that the converter is in a state for sending data to the microcomputer. These features are not taught or suggested by the cited references, whether taken alone or in combination.

Claim 16 recites that the data transmission available signal assumes a first level when the converter is in a state for sending data to the microcomputer and assumes a second level when the microcomputer is in a state for receiving data from the converter. These features are not taught or suggested by the cited references, whether taken alone or in combination.

Claim 17 recites that a global interrupt signal is input into the microcomputer when the data transmission available signal assumes said first level. These features are not taught or suggested by the cited references, whether taken alone or in combination.

Claim 18 recites that a data read control signal is input into the microcomputer when the data transmission available signal assumes said first level. These features are not taught or suggested by the cited references, whether taken alone or in combination.

• Claim 19 recites that the data read control signal is a 1-byte interrupt signal. These
• features are not taught or suggested by the cited references, whether taken alone or in combination.

Claim 20 recites that the microcomputer receives the converted cooking information in synchronism with a data receive property signal, and wherein the microcomputer recognizes that it is in a ready state to receive data when the data receive property signal assumes a first value and recognizes that it is in a state where data reading has been completed with the data receive property signal assumes a second value. These features are not taught or suggested by the cited references, whether taken alone or in combination.

Claim 21 recites that the data transmission available signal, the global interrupt signal, the data read control signal, and the data receive property signal are received through different ports of the microcomputer. These features are not taught or suggested by the cited references, whether taken alone or in combination.

Claim 22 recites a method for operating a microwave oven. The method includes converting cooking information obtained from the Internet into a signal recognizable by a microcomputer and cooking food in the oven based on the converted information in the response to a user signal. These features are not taught or suggested by the cited references, whether taken alone or in combination.

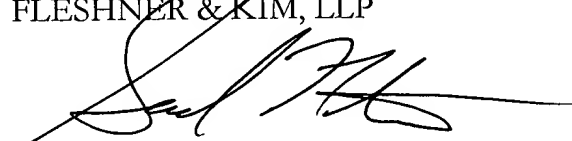
Claim 25 recites that a microcomputer controls the oven to cook the food based on a set of control signals. These signals are recited in claims 26-31, none of which are taught or

suggested by the references of record. Claim 32 further recites that these signals are received through different ports of the microcomputer. These features are also omitted from the cited references.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that any additional changes would place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
FLESHNER & KIM, LLP



Daniel Y.J. Kim
Registration No. 36,186

Samuel W. Ntiros
Registration No. 39,318

P.O. Box 221200
Chantilly, Virginia 20153-1200
703 766-3701 DYK:JHK/par
Date: April 23, 2004

Please direct all correspondence to Customer Number 34610